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I/TH, 2 August 1955

30,947
Project ORR 43,940

Evaluation of Czechoslovak Product Brochures

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The brochures give considerable technical data about a large number of different products of the Czechoslovak heavy machine building industry. Such data is useful for determining Czechoslovak technological capabilities. For example, one of the purposes of COCOM controls is to prevent the Soviet Bloc from receiving novel equipment from which they can copy new technology. A study of the brochures of Soviet Bloc equipment may, in some particular case, resolve the question of whether or not the Soviet Bloc countries will profit in technological knowledge if a particular item is not embargoed.

Viewed collectively, a large group of brochures, such as this group, gives an indication of the industrial strength of the country and an indication of the extent to which the country is dependent on outside sources for important industrial machinery. Although we will probably never receive enough brochures to form a complete catalogue of Czechoslovakia's industrial products, the brochures in question have enough scope to permit us to draw inferences concerning her ability to produce any industrial machine as required.

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St/FR

5 August 1955

THRU : Chief, D/I
Chief, I/FR

30.947

13.948, Evaluation of Czechoslovak Product Brochures.

1. This is the first series of good recent information on the Czechoslovakian circuit breaker and motor line. Although this type of information was abundant in 1943, there has been no recent data.

2. The pamphlet entitled, "Program of Sales", is extremely valuable in that it describes the line of products by categories. It is possible that several pamphlets may be printed on each of these categories.

3. Purchasers of this equipment could possibly gain additional information by insisting on the name of the individual plant manufacturer rather than the National Enterprise that manufactures the equipment.

4. It would enhance the value of this information if prices in both dollars and crowns were obtainable for several items in each of the product categories. Any knowledge of delivery delays and any unusual terms would also be of considerable interest.

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Chief, D/I

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5 August 55

Distribution:

0 & 4 - St/FR
1 - D/I
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MP-126

Chief, St/FR

4 August 1955

THRU : Chief, D/I

Chief, I/MM

Project ^{30.947}~~43.948~~, Evaluation of Czechoslovak Product Brochures.

1. This project consists of a memorandum on the evaluation of certain Czechoslovak product brochures

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3. The brochures constitute a valuable addition to this office's knowledge of certain Czechoslovak products. The items procured do not represent a comprehensive collection of the types of products displayed (the requirement did not ask for such).

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[REDACTED]

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4. The types of equipment and machines represented include the following:

- i. Machine tools
- ii. Metal-Forming Machines
- iii. Machine Tool & Metal-forming equipment and accessories.
- iv. Wood working Machines
- v. Electrical Equipment
- vi. Paper and Printing Machinery
- vii. Plant Equipment (Jacks, Chains, Compressors, etc.)
- viii. Excavators, Industrial Locomotives, Fork-lift trucks, Motorcycles.

5. The brochures number well over two hundred and of these more than half are of machine tools, metal-forming machines, and associated equipment. These brochures give a clear indication of the depth and comprehensiveness of the Czechoslovak machine tool industry. This office has not had such a complete record of the various types of machine tools before the acquisition of this collection, though it has been possible to acquire some of the brochures on an individual basis over the past few years. The brochures tend to confirm this office's previous estimates that the Czechoslovaks are producing a

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"full-range" of machine tool types, that these machine tools are probably of high quality, and that Czechoslovakia has the intent and probably the ability to sell these machines in Western markets.

6. This office requests that the brochures, particularly those on machine tools, be returned upon completion of this project to permit a detailed examination of them. The brochures should be filed in the Industrial Register after a study has been completed.

7. An evaluation of the value of the brochures will also be submitted by [REDACTED]

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